

MALVERN WELLS PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of Malvern Wells Parish Council duly convened and held in The Village Hall, Wells Road, Malvern Wells on **Wednesday 25th March, 2015** commencing at 8.05pm

Present: Councillors Mrs H Burrage (Chairman) M Victory
S Atwell B Knibb
K Wagstaff A Hull
J Black Mrs A Bradshaw
S Freeman N Johnson

Apologies for absence: Parish Councillors P Buchanan, K Hurst and Mrs C O'Donnell

In attendance: David Taverner (Clerk and Responsible Finance Officer)
County Cllr Mrs L Hodgson

149/15 Declarations of Interest

a) Register of Interests: Councillors were reminded of the need to update their register of interests: No such changes were notified.

b) To declare any Disclosable Pecuniary Interests in items on the agenda and their nature: The Clerk declared a pecuniary interest in *agenda item 9a- payment of accounts-* regarding his claim for the reimbursement of administration expenses.

c) To declare any Other Disclosable Interests in items on the agenda and their nature: Cllr Black declared an interest in *agenda item 9a- payment of accounts-* regarding a payment to his wife for the reimbursement of marquee hire for the Village fête.

150/15 To Consider Requests from Councillors for the Council to Grant a Dispensation (S33 of the Localism Act 2011): There were none.

151/15 Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 25th February, 2015

Minute 135/15 b paragraph 4 was amended to read "Cllr Wagstaff abstained from the vote"

Minute 136/15 b paragraph 7 was amended to read "... Richard Banks..."

Following the completion of these amendments Members then unanimously approved the minutes of the meeting. They were then signed by the Chairman as a correct record of that meeting.

152/15 Matters arising from the minutes of the Parish Council Meetings held on 25th February, 2015

There were none.

153/15 **Minutes of the Extraordinary Parish Council Meeting held on 18th March, 2015.**

Minute 148/15 paragraph 9 was amended to read....."Cllr Burrage then proposed that the Council should increase its offer for the land to 100k. This proposal was seconded by Cllr Freeman. The proposal was then put to the vote and a named vote was recorded as follows:

For the proposal: - Cllrs Burrage, Freeman and Black

Against the proposal: - Cllrs Knibb, O'Donnell, Wagstaff, Hurst and Buchanan.

The proposal was thus declared as lost

Minute 148/15 paragraph 12 was amended to read" following further debate Cllr Freeman proposed that the Council should increase its offer to £90K in line with the offer advice received from the Council's agent.."

Following the completion of these amendments Members then unanimously approved the minutes of the meeting. They were then signed by the Chairman as a correct record of that meeting.

154/15 **Matters arising from the minutes of the Extraordinary Parish Council Meetings held on 18th March, 2015**

There were none.

155/15 **Public Speakers and Questions to the Parish Council**

Mr Paul Bennett, a prospective District Councillor candidate for Malvern Wells, spoke to introduce himself to Members of the Parish Council.

156/15 **Reports from Council Committees and Working groups**

(a) Report of the Planning Committee meeting held on **4th February, 2015**. Cllr Hull presented the report of this meeting which was noted and accepted by the Council.

Councillors had been disappointed to note the District Council's response to the request, for an extension of time for the Council to consider its response to the amended planning consultation on 46 dwellings at Rothwell/ Hanley Road. A written request which had been sent to the Development Control manager at MHDC for re-consideration of this request but this had been ignored.

It was agreed that the Clerk should write to the Head of Planning services at MHDC to register the Council's displeasure with the lack of a suitable response.

157/15

Financial Matters

(a) To approve the schedule of accounts payable

The following accounts were approved for payment:-

Chq	Payee	For:	NET £	VAT £	GROSS £
3214	Worcestershire County Council	AONB Contribution	800.00	-	800.00
3215	Martin Thomas	Cemetery Work March	252.21	-	252.21
3216	Malvern Mowers & Tractors	Chipper Hire- Cemetery	150.00	30.00	180.00
3217	Steve Maund	Outdoor work - March	944.03	-	944.03
3218	Steve Maund	Cemetery materials	21.77	4.35	26.12
3219	David Taverner	Admin expenses March	163.48	14.80	178.28
3220	Susan Black	Marquee Hire - fete	50.00	-	50.00
					-
	TOTALS		2,381.49	49.15	2,430.64

After amending the total sum payable to £2,430.64, to incorporate the payment of £800 made to Worcestershire County Council in respect of the AONB running costs, the accounts were unanimously approved for payment.

(b) PWLB borrowing approval application - Purchase of Land at Holywell Park, Wells Road

Following the agreement of the Council to table an offer of £90k to purchase land at Holywell Park, approval was now required from the Public Works Loan Board (PWLB) to fund the purchase if the offer was accepted. The Clerk advised Councillors that it was also possible for them to include, in the total borrowing approval application, an amount for works that may be required for work relating to the safety of the site, such as the provision of new fencing.

Following discussion, Cllr Victory proposed that the Council should make an application to facilitate borrowing from the PWLB in the sum of £110K, this to be limited to a maximum of £90k to support the land purchase, with a maximum drawdown of £20K to fund any necessary site safety works that might be required. This proposal was seconded by Cllr Freeman.

On being put to the vote a named vote was recorded as follows:

For the proposal: - Cllrs Burrage, Freeman, Victory, Black, Atwell, Johnson and Hull.

Against the proposal: - Cllrs Knibb, Bradshaw and Wagstaff

The proposal to make an application to the PWLB in the sum of £110K to fund the purchase costs and any necessary site safety works at Holywell Park was thus declared as carried.

158/15

Chairman's Communications

(a) Jubilee Fountain Well Dressing

It was unanimously agreed that Jan Bowden's request on behalf of the Malvern Spa Association to dress the Jubilee Fountain for the May Day celebrations should be approved.

(b) Parish Council Candidate Nomination papers - Elections 7th May

The Clerk requested that all outstanding nomination forms should be returned to him for checking by no later than Wednesday 1st April; or returned directly to the elections team by no later than 4pm on 9th April. Councillors must ensure that those persons nominating and seconding them should live in the same Ward.

(c) Wells Road Traffic Speed

Concerns had been raised regarding the speed of traffic entering the parish along the Wells Road from the South. The particular concern is cars coming towards Malvern and not slowing down from 60 to 40 to 30. Officers did carry out a speed survey in the autumn but felt there was not a need to do anything. It was agreed that the Clerk should write to the Safety Communities Partnership team to see what further action it might be possible for them to undertake.

159/15

Report of the Clerk on actions undertaken since the previous meeting

(a) New play equipment –Assarts Road play area

Further quotations for new play area equipment were now being sourced. The aim was for work on the installation of any new equipment to be undertaken in time for use in the summer. Funding for the new equipment which had been selected was due to be forthcoming from the release of Section 106 planning contributions currently being held on behalf of the Parish by the District Council.

The ROSPA report on the safety of the play equipment had identified no items of concern. Some painting and general maintenance would be undertaken as part of the normal annual programme, this would include the painting of the swings frame.

(b) Malvern Common (Peachfield Road) play area project

The Clerk advised that he had now submitted a new outline scheme, together with details of a presentation that the Council were intending to make to the Conservator's Land Management Committee. It was hoped that a suitable scheme could be established near to the central car park and football pitch area on the Common.

(c) Community access defibrillator pad scheme (CADP)

The Clerk advised that the defibrillator equipment had now been received and was due to be installed at the Wells Primary school

The application to the British Heart Foundation for a grant funded defibrillators, under the CADP scheme, was being pursued and a meeting with their representative had been arranged for 10th April.

160/15 Report of County Councillor

There was little to report from the County Council as the budget has been agreed and there has not been a cabinet meeting since the last parish meeting in February.

Various local temporary road closures locally were due to be advertised.

Cllr Hodgson promoted the event to celebrate the Magna Carta which was taking place on 14th June parishes were being encouraged to join in the celebrations and stage 'Liberty Teas' that day. Further information on the event could be obtained from the County Council.

Hartlebury Castle had now been bought from the church by new Trustees and Worcestershire County Council would become their tenants.

The Hub was being transferred to the external management of a private company - CAPITA -with effect from 1st May.

A new divisional fund budget would be available to draw on with effect from 1st April.

Mr Richard Vakilso had written to the Malvern Gazette regarding a complaint concerning the lack of grit bin near his property. The Clerk advised that a new parish grit bin could be provided at a suitable location and agreed to liaise with Cllr Hodgson on that particular matter.

161/15 Report of District Councillor

Cllr Mrs Campbell advised that changes were taking place to the composition of the Senior Management team at the District Council. It was currently unclear when the promised financial savings from this exercise would actually arise.

Cllr Campbell also reported that the Government have been changes to the manner of the calculation of Section 106 contributions are being mooted.

162/15 Report of the elected conservator - Cllr S Freeman

Cllr Freeman advised that a major review of the conservator’s governance arrangements were currently being undertaken.

163/15 Reports from representative on other bodies

(a) Malvern Hills CALC – Cllr Knibb-the next CALC area meeting would take place on 21st April at County Hall

(b) Malvern Wells Village Hall Management Committee – Cllr Black advised that the Village Hall AGM had been scheduled for 31st March.

(c) Malvern Hills CAB - Cllr Johnson - there was nothing to report

(d) The Wyche Institute – Cllr Mrs Bradshaw – their AGM had been scheduled to take place on 15th April.

164/15 Date of the next Council meeting

This had been rescheduled to take place on Wednesday 22nd April.

There being no other business the meeting the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.21pm.

Minutes approved

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Cllr Mrs Helen Burrage- Chairman of the Council